have gone up beyond the reach of common man; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The prices of scheduled bulk drugs and formulations are regulated as per provisions of DPCO, 1987. The manufacturers of non-scheduled bulk drugs and formulations are free to revise the prices. However Government is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necessary.

Supreme Court directions

2044. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 940 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th April, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court upheld the prices challenged by various drug companies in the judgement dated 10th April, 1988;

(b) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court gave directive to his Ministry to give them hearing within two months and dispose of their petitions within two weeks;

(c) if so, names of the companies to whom hearing was given within prescribed limit of time and action taken by Govt. with regard to disposal of petitions;

(d) whether it is a fact that most of the companies have not implemented the fixed prices;

(e) if so, whether his Ministry have verified;

(f) what are the medicines for which prices have been implemented along with the names of products and prices implemented;

(g) whether Supreme Court gave any other direction; and

(h) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Hearing was given to all the companies as directed by the Court.

(d) to (f) It is reported that the companies have implemented the prices. The names of products and prices etc. required in the question is voluminous. The time and efforts required for collection of these details will not be in commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Compilation of details regarding prices

2045. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 923 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th April, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has compiled the information in regard to prices fixed and price charged for each finished medicine, sales turn over of each from the date of fixation of price upto April, 1987 and production of each birth drug from 1980 to 1986; and

(b) if so, what are the details of each?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The details of production, prices, sales turn-over of finished medicines are quite voluminous. The time and efforts required for allocation of these details will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Import of jely-filled telephone cables

2046. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to import Jelly-filled telephone cables by the Department of Telecommunications and M/s. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is sufficient indigenous capacity for manufacture of these cables;

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to have healthy competition between M/s. Hindustan Cables Limited and other manufacturers since the telephone cables are procured under an agreement of prices based on cost plus incidental basis; and

(d) what are the details of the agreement reached with the M|s. Hindustan Cables Limited for purchase of cables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir, some high sizes cables, where regular production has not been started by indigenous manufacturers are proposed to be imported.

(b) No, Sir, not in higher sizes.

(c) A proposal is under consideration that M|s. HCL should participate in open tenders with other indigenous manufacturers for supply of jelly filled cables manufactured by them w.e.f. 1-4-1989.

(d) There is a pricing agreement between DOT and HCL effective from 1-4-86 which is current for three years. The main points of agreement are given below:

(i) Agreement is effective from 1-4-86 for 3 years.

(ii) DOT will give 3 years notice to HCL before phasing out any product line.

(iii) The pricing will be based on BICP recommendations.

(iv) 50 per cent of base price will be paid as advance to M|s. HCL alongwith the order for supplies scheduled for first 12 months and balance 50 per cent will be paid on presentation of proof of despatch.

(v) A price variation clause is also incorporated in the Pricing Agreement.

(vi) There is penalty clause for late delivery of materials.

(vii) There is a bonus clause for early delivery of materials, and

(viii) Any of the articles contained in the agreement shall be subject to alteration|deletion by mutual agreement between DOT and HCL.

Distillation plant to process crude produced in the Cauveri basin

2047. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a distillation plant to process the crude produced in the Cauveri Basin; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme including the cost and time frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Government have asked MRL to prepare a Detailed Feasibility Report for setting up facilities for processing the crude produced in the Cauveri Basin. Preliminary estimate of the project cost is Rs. 94 crores. The capacity is to absorb 0.5 MT of crude oil.

2048. [*Transferred to the 1st December*, 1988].

Faulty functioning of the O.N.G.C.

2049. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank which is funding some of the projects of the ONGC has found fault with the overall functioning of the public sector giant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to faulty functioning of the ONGC the implementation of the ambitious schemes have been badly delayed;